

To: ORD.Docket@epa.gov[]
Cc: []
Bcc: CN=Richard Parkin/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]
From: CN=Tami Fordham/OU=R10/O=USEPA/C=US
Sent: Wed 6/13/2012 1:28:11 AM
Subject: Docket # EPA-HQ-ORD-2012-0276 Fw: Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment and Timing

Please add to the Docket.

----- Forwarded by Tami Fordham/R10/USEPA/US on 06/12/2012 05:26 PM -----

From: Joel Webster <ruggedcountry@gmail.com>
To: Richard Parkin/R10/USEPA/US@EPA, Tami Fordham/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 06/12/2012 02:56 PM
Subject: Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment and Timing

Dear Tami and Rich:

Thank you for conducting the recent public hearings on the draft Bristol Bay watershed assessment. Your work on this issue is highly appreciated.

Backcountry Hunters & Anglers believes that the agency and its staff have done a tremendous job reviewing existing information about the region and the potential impacts of large-scale mining on salmon. We commend your efforts.

It appears to us that sufficient information exists today for the EPA to initiate a 404(c) process to protect Bristol Bay.

We know that the Pebble Limited Partnership (PLP) and a few others have asked for an extension of time on the comment period. We disagree with the need for any extension, and urge EPA to stick to its time schedule. The time frame and period for input equals or exceeds public review and comment periods provided by the State of Alaska on important issues in Bristol Bay.

An extension is simply not warranted and we ask that you please stand firm and complete the watershed assessment on schedule.

We will continue to be involved in this process and appreciate your efforts to protect the world's most important salmon fishery.

Sincerely,

Joel Webster
Co-Chairman
Backcountry Hunters & Anglers
8 Carriage Way
Missoula, MT 59802